

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY EA/J:RNKILPATRICK:EH
APPROVED BY NEA:MDRAPER
EA:RSULLIVAN
S/S:SVALERGA

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TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY
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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 208655

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:US, JA, XF

SUBJECT:IMPACT OF CAMP DAVID SUMMIT ON FUKUDA MID-EAST VISIT

1. IN MEETING WITH DAS ROGER SULLIVAN ON AUGUST 12, JAPAN-
ESE EMBASSY POLITICAL COUNSELOR ARIMA NOTED POTENTIAL IM-
PACT OF CAMP DAVID SUMMIT ON SCHEDULE FOR PRIME MINISTER
FUKUDA'S MIDDLE EAST VISIT. HE SAID HE WAS UNDER INSTRUC-
TIONS TO SEEK INFORMATION REGARDING POSSIBLE LENGTH OF
SUMMIT MEETINGS IN ORDER THAT GOJ MIGHT MEASURE IMPACT.
SULLIVAN REPLIED THAT MEETINGS WOULD BE OPEN-ENDED AND THAT
IT WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE TO ESTIMATE HOW LONG THEY MIGHT
CONTINUE.

2. ON AUGUST 14, ARIMA CALLED AGAIN UNDER INSTRUCTIONS TO
REQUEST APPOINTMENT AT HIGH LEVEL FOR EMBASSY CHARGE SUMIYA
TO PURSUE THIS REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ON POSSIBLE LENGTH
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OF SUMMIT. MEETING WAS ARRANGED FOR SUMIYA AND ARIMA WITH
NEA ACTING ASSISTANT SECRETARY DRAPER FOR 3:00 PM SAME DAY.
AT THAT MEETING, SUMIYA EXPRESSED GOJ'S APPRECIATION FOR USG
EFFORTS IN SEARCH OF MIDDLE EAST PEACE AND GOJ'S HOPE FOR
SUCCESS OF CAMP DAVID SUMMIT. HE ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT
TIMING OF SUMMIT CAUSES GOJ SOME CONCERN REGARDING POSSIBLE
IMPACT ON ITINERARY FOR FUKUDA'S TRIP TO MIDDLE EAST. HE

NOTED THAT FUKUDA IS NOW SCHEDULED TO BE IN EGYPT SEPTEMBER 8-11 AND TO MEET WITH PRESIDENT SADAT ON SEPTEMBER 9.

3. REGARDING SUMMIT SCHEDULE, MR. DRAPER TOLD SUMIYA THAT SUMMIT TALKS WILL PROBABLY BEGIN ON SEPTEMBER 6. HE EXPLAINED THAT THE USG HAS MADE CLEAR THAT THERE WILL BE NO TIME LIMIT ON THE MEETINGS AND THAT IT IS NOT POSSIBLE TO PREDICT HOW LONG THE SUMMIT WILL LAST. MR. DRAPER TOLD SUMIYA THAT PRESIDENT CARTER WOULD SEND A MESSAGE TO PRIME MINISTER FUKUDA WHICH WOULD DISCUSS PURPOSES OF THE SUMMIT.

4. ARIMA ASKED IF THERE WERE ITEMS ON PRESIDENT CARTER'S SCHEDULE THAT MIGHT INFLUENCE THE SUMMIT'S LENGTH. DRAPER SAID THE PRESIDENT CONSIDERS THE SUMMIT OF SUCH IMPORTANCE THAT HE WOULD MAKE ANY CHANGES IN HIS SCHEDULE REQUIRED TO PERMIT SUFFICIENT TIME FOR THE SUMMIT TALKS. SUMIYA ASKED IF IT WERE POSSIBLE THAT THE MEETINGS WOULD CONTINUE FOR AS LONG AS A WEEK TO TEN DAYS. MR. DRAPER AGAIN SAID THAT WE CANNOT PREDICT THE LENGTH OF THE SUMMIT. HOWEVER, HE PROMISED TO CONSULT WITH ASSISTANT SECRETARY SAUNDERS UPON HIS RETURN TO WASHINGTON ON EVENING OF AUGUST 15 AND ADVISE SUMIYA IF SOME MORE SPECIFIC ESTIMATE MIGHT BE POSSIBLE.

5. ON AUGUST 16, MR. DRAPER CALLED SUMIYA AND TOLD HIM
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THAT ALTHOUGH THE U.S. UNDERSTANDS THE PREDICAMENT OF THE PRIME MINISTER, IT IS ALL BUT IMPOSSIBLE TO PREDICT HOW LONG THE SUMMIT WILL LAST. HE EXPRESSED OUR HOPE THAT THE GOJ WILL UNDERSTAND THE DIFFICULTY OF MAKING ANY PREDICTION, GIVEN THE DIRECTIVE OF THE PRESIDENT THAT NO TIME LIMIT BE SET. VANCE

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